

WILLIAM BUYS



William Buys was born at Bountiful, Utah, Dec. 22, 1852, the son of Hyrum and Elizabeth Huntington Buys, the ninth child in a family of 10. His parents joined The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in New York soon after its organization, and followed the leaders through all the trying scenes and persecutions in Illinois and Missouri, finally landing in Bountiful, Utah, Sept. 15, 1850. His father died in 1855, and his mother died in 1873.

Mr. Buys was a graduate of the University of Utah, and began teaching school in Heber Valley in 1876. While teaching he studied law and also found time to revise the school system in the valley and to modernize it. He was admitted to the bar of both the district and the United States courts.

He served several terms as county attorney, also as county surveyor. For many years he was identified with the Board of Education of Wasatch County; was a prominent member of the Utah Press Assn., serving several terms as its president, and was a member of the National Press Assn. His achievement which he was most proud of, however, was the founding and successful managing of the Wasatch Wave.

Mr. Buys married Sarah Jane McDonald, daughter of John and Lucinda Cole McDonald December 25, 1883. Their family consisted of 11 children, seven girls and four boys. Six members of the family are still living: Mrs. D. John Bloem (Lucinda), Mrs. E. L. Schmutz (Eva), Mrs. F. R. Gateley (Velda), Mrs. A. F. Stewart (DeEtte), James Francis and William Buys.

Mr. Buys held many positions of trust,

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among them we might mention: county attorney, city attorney, school trustee, county surveyor and editor. He was a member of the State Constitutional Convention, and took an active part in framing the constitution of Utah.

William Buys died Nov. 27, 1909.

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